

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TAGS: AORG AFIN ABUD UN
SUBJ: UN FINANCE: FIFTH COMMITTEE CONTINUES GENERAL DEBATE AND
APPROVES SECTION 20 OF PROGRAM BUDGET

REF: (A) USUN 4821 (B) STATE 235942

1. SUMMARY: IN 1708TH AND 1709TH MEETINGS OF FIFTH
COMMITTEE, GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY REPS OF
HUNGARY, ISRAEL, GDR, VENEZUELA, IRAN, MEXICO, EGYPT,
PERU, MONGOLIA AND COLOMBIA. COMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED
\$7,868,200 UNDER BUDGET SECTION 20 BY VOTE OF 62-0-8
(SOV BLOC, US). SECTION 22 WAS INTRODUCED, BY DISCUSSION
WILL NOT BE CONCLUDED UNTIL OCT 13 OR LATER. END SUMMARY

2. HUNGARY, GDR AND MONGOLIA DELS MADE PREDICTABLE
STATEMENTS ABOUT NEED FOR RESTRAINT IN EXPENDITURES VIA
IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY, EFFICIENCY, ETC. GDR REP ADDED PLUG
FOR SUPPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES AND MONGOLIA
EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PEACE AND
SECURITY. ALL THREE OBJECTED TO UN BOND ISSUE AND TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE IN REGULAR BUDGET...

3. ISRAELI REP OBJECTED TO CONCEPT OF BUDGET CEILING,
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BUT FAVORED REDUCTION OF WASTE, CITING EXAMPLES OF

UNCTAD EFFORTS TO CUT DOCUMENTATION.. VENEZUELAN DEL MADE MINOR SUGGESTIONS RE PROGRAM BUDGET FORMAT. HE ALSO URGED THAT MEDIUM-TERM PLAN BE ADAPTED TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS MADE AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION.

4. IRAN DEL, IN CAREFULLY NUANCED STATEMENT, ALSO EMPHASIZED NEW ATMOSPHERE CREATED BY 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, CITING WORKING GROUP ON PROGRAM BUDGET MACHINERY AS "MANIFESTATION OF THRUST OF UN REFORM." IRAN DEL SUGGESTED THAT SYG FOREWORD TO BUDGET BE MORE COMPREHENSIVE TO ASSIST DELS WHO HAVE NO TIME TO READ SEVEN-VOLUME BUDGET DOCUMENT. IN POINTED REFERENCE TO USYG LEWANDOWSKI (POLISH), HE EMPHASIZED HUGE BUDGET INCREASES FOR CONFERENCE SERVICES REQUESTED BY SECRETARIAT MEMBERS COMING FROM COUNTRIES WHICH ADVOCATE ECONOMY. IRAN DEL ALSO SPOKE POINTEDLY ABOUT COUNTRIES WHICH WITHHOLD CONTRIBUTIONS FOR "REASONS OF PRINCIPLE," STATING THAT THOSE COUNTRIES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROPER FUNCTIONING OF THE ORGANIZATION. "IF THEY SPEND BILLIONS TO SHAKE HANDS IN OUTER SPACE, THEY CAN SPEND A FEW MILLIONS TO SHAKE HANDS HERE."

5. MEXICAN DEL URGED SYG TO SUBMIT BUDGET DOCUMENTS IN TIME FOR ACABQ REVIEW AND COMPLAINED THAT INSTRUCTIONS TO SECRETARIAT FOR PREPARATION OF BUDGET WERE NOT SUFFICIENTLY PRECISE. EGYPTIAN DEL, WHILE SUPPORTING NEEDED BUDGET INCREASES, SUGGESTED AN INTERESTING COMPROMISE ON FULL BUDGETING. HE SAID AMOUNTS SHOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR INFLATION FACTOR IN FIRST YEAR OF BIENNIAL ONLY, I.E. 1976. LIKE MANY PREVIOUS SPEAKERS, HE SUPPORTED RECOMMENDATIONS OF WORKING GROUP ON PROGRAM BUDGET MACHINERY.

6. PERUVIAN DEL COMPLAINED THAT COMMON SERVICES TOOK 35.7 PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET. HE ALSO SUPPORTED STATEMENTS BY OTHER DELS THAT FINANCIAL REPERCUSSIONS OF INFLATION SHOULD BE BORNE BY INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES.. COLOMBIAN DEL COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY SOME MEMBERS WHO AGREED WITH DECISIONS OF 6TH AND 7TH SPECIAL SESSIONS ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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NOW PROPOSING EXPENDITURE REDUCTIONS. HE SUPPORTED FULL BUDGETING AND COMPLAINED OF TREND OF MAJOR POWERS WHICH SEEK SOLUTIONS TO WORLD PROBLEMS OUTSIDE UN FRAMEWORK.

7. SECTION 20--LEGAL ACTIVITIES: US DEL (BACHE) MADE INTERVENTION PER REF B. UK DEL SUPPORTED US POSITION ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. ALGERIAN AND PHILIPPINES DELS ASKED FACTUAL QUESTIONS TO WHICH

SECRETARY GAVE REPLIES. COMMITTEE THEN APPROVED
\$7,868,200 FOR SECTION 20 ON FIRST FEADING BY VOTE OF
62-0-8(US, SOV BLOC).

8. SECTION 22--ADMINISTRATION: THE SYG PROPOSED
\$126,698,000, AND THE ACABQ RECOMMENDED A REDUCTION OF
\$2,663,000 PLUS AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$21,000 FOR
RECLASSIFICATION OF POSTS AND REPRESENTATION, BRINGING
TOTAL RECOMMENDED REDUCTION TO \$2,684,000; 78.2 PERCENT
OF REDUCTIONS WERE IN FOUR AREAS--GENERAL SERVICES,
GENEVA AND NEW YORK, POLICY AND DIRECTION, AND STAFF
TRAINING ACTIVITIES, AND WERE MOTIVATED BY NEED FOR
ECONOMY AND LACK OF ADEQUATE JUSTIFICATION BY SYG.

9. NEXT MEETING OF FIFTH COMMITTEE IS SCHEDULED
FOR THURSDAY MORNING, OCT 9, AT WHICH THE US AND SEVEN
OR EIGHT OTHER DELS ARE SCHEDULED TO SPEAK IN GENERAL
BUDGET DEBATE.

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